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L-00000D-05-0128

Arizona Corporation Commission

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To:
Chairman Jeff Hatch-Miller
Commissioner Kristin Mayes
Commissioner William Mundell
Commissioner Marc Spitzer
Commissioner Mike Gleason

From:
David & Cynthia Mueller
PO Box 769
41235 W Mountain View Rd
Tonopah AZ 85354
June 8, 2005

Re: Docket 128 – linesiting for Palo Verde to TS5

L-00000D-05-0128

We heard today that the linesiting committee voted to locate the Palo Verde to TS5 525kV line just 200 feet north of the north fence of the Central Arizona Project (CAP) canal in the Tonopah area. This means that they rejected, without reason as far as I have heard, Alternative 1 to move the line 2000' farther north, as shown on the project plan.

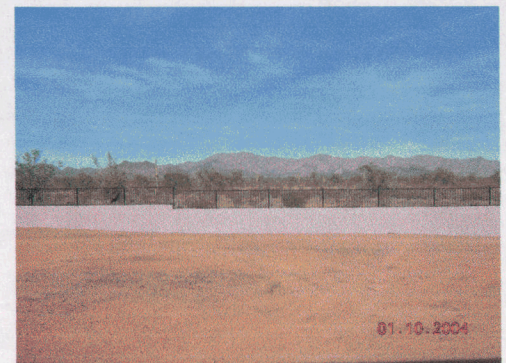
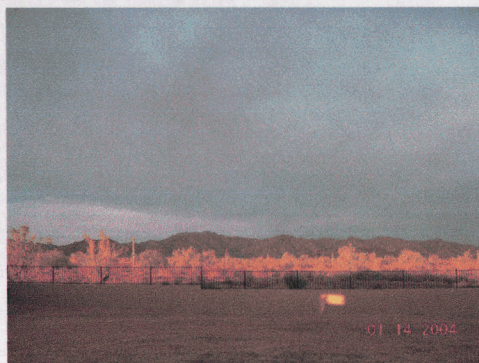
Privately owned land abuts the southern fence line of the CAP in the 411th Ave area. This puts private land within 400 feet of the proposed center line of the route, *for no good reason!* The line could be 2400 feet away if Alt. 1 was chosen, and there is a compelling reason to do so, for very little cost. All the land in question north of the CAP is BLM land. Almost all the land south of the CAP is private land.

I discussed this matter over a year ago with the EPG (Environmental Planning Group), the BLM Phoenix field office, and attended the Monday June 6th 6:30 pm public hearing. From all these sources, I had a good feeling that Alt. 1 would be selected. Imagine my surprise when I hear the committee voted 9-0 for the original alignment!

My family and I live approximately ¼ to ½ mile south of the CAP on 40 acres of land we purchased in year 2000. We have been living here 4 years now. We enjoy the quiet desert, the plants and animals, and the unobstructed view of the Belmont Mountains to the north. Attached are pictures from our back patio, of the view beyond the area fenced for my daughter to play in. All these views will have power poles or towers showing in them.

The land we purchased said nothing about a utility corridor in the title search. We and our closest neighbors all live off-grid, on solar systems, receiving no commercial power from APS. Hence in no conceivable way will this power line offer any benefit to us. It will only destroy our views and depress our property values. APS has offered us no compensation. The usual argument that the community needs the power is irrelevant to us, since APS chooses not to provide us power except at a very high cost. The very land we live on was owned by the Federal Government until the early 1990's when it was sold off into private ownership, after it was cut off from the rest of the BLM land by the CAP. This was originally leased cattle ranch land. Now the government that sold us the land wants to lend a hand in destroying its value, once we have purchased it.

Please do away with the present routing of the Palo Verde to TS5 line, or at least push it as far north of the CAP as possible, to minimize its visibility against the Belmont Mountain and the destruction of our property values.



David W. Mueller

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